auxiliary articles, working up State raw materials and semi-finished goods and producing articles for the general market.

We have in the State what are called Industrial schools and schools of Arts and Crafts. The schools contain more teachers than students. Some of them I visited reminded me of the Lady of the Silent Hall. I hold the view that either these schools be handed over to Co-operative Societies or got attached to other schools of the State. The wiser policy appears to be to absorb the industrial school teachers in the ordinary literary schools where these crafts could also be taught as arts are now being done. For higher course of study, we can retain the Arts and Crafts Schools of Ernakulam and Trichur and improve them by holding out better attraction in terms of stipends and scholarships.

Once again I regret to say, Sir, that the time before me was too short to examine these schemes in all their implications, especially on the financial side. I sometimes wonder if it may not be profitable to cry a halt to the adoption of further new schemes, and be contentent with pushing through the ones we have on hand. You can soon hear the Finance Member saying that while our expenditure is mounting high, the resources remain static if they are not already showing a tendency to go down. The time, therefore, has come for all of us to spend a serious thought on the subject. It appears to me that the only way open to us is to revolutionise the industrial policy of the State. We have here a first class Harbour easily accessible by road, rail and backwaters. With these facilities, a vigorous industrial policy, sufficiently courageous, will attract big industries. The advent of industries will make our resources elastic and at the same time help us in solving the problem of unemployment if not completely, at least partially.

In the meanwhile, by building up the various organisations referred to above and by nursing them under the parental care of the State, we would be taking long strides in the political, social and economic progress of the State. Organisations—Trade Union, Co-operative or Panchayat—have a tremendous educative value. Organisation means adjustment, discipline and common purpose. It means opportunity to hear, to question and to decide. It arouses in the rank and file that consciousness of consent which is so necessary for effective democracy. It means the pooling of resources, collective effort for the maximum good of the maximum number of people. And I feel bold to say that we may not have the occasion to rue the day when we took this bold step.

6. Announcement of Panel Chairmen

Mr. President: I have to announce that I have nominated the following Hon'ble Members to constitute the Panel of Chairmen—

Rao Bahadur T. S. Narayana Ayyar and Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.

7. Message of the Diwan to the President referring the Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendement) Bill of Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan

Secretary to the Council : Under sub-section (1) of Section 27 of the Government of Cochin Act, I have the honour to return the Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill of Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan passed by the Legislative Council on 29th November 1945 for reconsideration by the Council on the fellowing point.—

Under Section 8 of the Cochin Verumpattamdars Act, VIII of 1118, if a Verumpattamdar fails to pay the pattam in respect of his holding within three months of the due date, the lessor can sue for eviction of the Verumpattamdar and the Court shall be bound to order the eviction of the Verumpattamdar and shall not extend the time or condone the delay in the payment of such pattam. Clause 3 (2) of the above Bill provides that where eviction is sought on the ground of non-payment of pattam, if the Verumpattamdar, at the *hearing of the suit* pays or tenders payment of the pattam in arrear together with interest thereon and the full costs of the suit, or furnishes security for payment of the same within fifteen days, the Court shall instead of ordering eviction of the holding, relieve the Verumpattamdar against the forfeiture incurred by him for non-payment of pattam and allow him to continue to hold the property as if the forfeitue had not occurred.

From the wording of the clause it is not quite clear whether the benefit is proposed to be conferred only on the Verumpattamdars who make the payments at the *first hearing of the suit* or at any other stage of the suit. The expression "hearing of the suit" may take in subsequent hearings, including appeals and second appeals. As the amendment seeks to take away a safeguard vouchsafed to the land-owner for the prompt payment of pattam, it is only just that the relief

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from forfeiture should be given only in cases where the tenant makes the payment at the "first hearing" of the suit. The Verumpattamdar who makes default in making the payment on the first hearing shall not also be entitled to any extension of time or condonation of delay. With a view to make this position clear, it is considered necessary to recast the clause.

8. Announcement of Bill assented to and dissented from by His Highness the Maharaja

Legislative Council Secretary: I have to announce that the following Bills passed by this Council have received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja.—

(1) The Cochin Factories Act (Amendment) Bill (Act VIII of 1121).
(2) The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill (Act IX of 1121)
(3) The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill (Act X of 1121)
(4) The Cochin Village Courts Act (Amendment) Bill (Act XII of 1121)
(5) The Cochin Vehicles Taxation Bill (Act XIII of 1121)
(6) The Cochin Government Savings Banks Bill (Act XIV of 1121)

I have also to announce that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to withold his assent to the Cochin Agriculturists Relief Act (Amendment) Bill which was passed by the Council.

9. Placing of the Statement of expenditure under Legislative Council Rules 58

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Under rule 58 of the Legislative Council Rules, I beg to place the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under section 28 (1) (c) of the Government of Cochin Act, XX of 1113.

10. Presentation of the budget estimate for 1122 M. E.

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Sir,

By your kind leave, I rise to present the budget estimate for 1122 M. E.

This time last year it was in a more optimistic mood that I introduced the budget estimate of the current year. With the complete collapse of the Third Reich preceded by the unconditional surrender of her western satellites and with the imminent total defeat of the Japanese in sight, it was thought that the great crisis had passed and that gradual restoration of normal conditions could be expected in the not distant future. Japan too was overthrown soon. These glorious achievements of arms have not, however, been followed by the return of peaceful conditions so far.

It is true our external enemies have collapsed; but we are still confronted by a frightening array of most dangerous adversaries—the most formidable being poverty, round whose axis revolves its attendant allies—ill-health, illiteracy, under-nourishment and un-employment. Famine threatens us more than ever; clothing has become too scarce; civilian building has been almost entirely neglected for over the last five years where a continually expanding programme is essential to meet the needs of a growing population; the development of our economy is retarded by the inability to obtain all the required capital equipment. In short, we are faced with all the great problems of life at this juncture—better food, better housing, more clothes, better hygiene and more enlightenment through education of both boys and girls. In the words of His Excellency the Viceroy the aim and endeavour of every one of us in the post-war years should be "to lift the poor man from poverty to security, from ill-helath to vigour and from ignorance to understanding".

It will be a source of great solace if the budget before the House would help even to a little extent in the solution of these burning problems of life and in building up the future.

I shall now proceed to review financial position for the current and the following year against this background. The details have all been enumerated at length in my Memorandum and the three speeches that have preceded me have rendered my task very light. I shall, however, make brief references to a few important features that merit attention.

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